

Farm, Garden and Household.

Seasonable Hints.

Last spring's lambs should be kept separate from the older sheep. It would be well to give them at least one feed a day of hay.

Sows that are desired to breed next April should be coupled this month. A little extra feed will secure the object. Afterward the sows should be fed sufficient to keep them in good, healthy condition, but not fat. Young cows that are growing should be fed more liberally than older ones. The latter, if they have a warm, dry pen to run in, with plenty of bedding, will require very little food. We feed our own breeding sows principally on bran soaked in water or the slops from the house. A few mangels will be fed with great advantage to the health of the sows. But if you have not an ample supply better delay feeding them out until towards spring.

Fattening hogs should be pushed forward rapidly. If they do not eat well they will not pay for the little they do eat. Better sell them as soon as their appetite begins to fail.

Last spring's pigs which are to be fattened next summer or fall should be fed liberally. This is the great secret of producing choice pork at a cheap rate. A pig well wintered is half summered.

If the ground is not frozen plowing is still in order wherever it will facilitate work in the spring.

Wheat fields should be examined to see if there are any parts liable to be injured by water either now or in the spring. The necessary ditches should be dug before the ground is frozen.

Get the implements under cover. If any need repairs place them where they will be convenient to get at them during the winter.

Manure may still be drawn out and spread on grass land or on winter wheat. Clean up the premises and make everything tidy for winter.

Our Little People.

During the damp and cold season the same care should be exercised in protecting the baby's shoulders and arms as its body. If the mother desires to exhibit her darling's beautiful skin, let her cut a small hole in the dress over the little one's heart, and when the neighbors come in she can carry the baby about and show the skin through the hole in the dress. This is so near the heart that the place will not get mischievously cold; but the extremities are so far removed from the great life and heat-producing apparatus, that they need much covering.

Before leaving this point, I wish to say a word of the dress of children's legs. While the baby is in the mother's lap, or until it begins to run alone, it has abundant skirts, and they are a yard and a quarter long; but let the little chap take a step on his own responsibility, and he will bob those skirts off a wide range of the first job. And then, lest the skirt, short as it is, should hang down around his hips and keep them warm, the vain, foolish mother puts on a stiff skirt and makes it stick straight out. The legs are left mostly naked, while the feet are covered with toy stockings and slippers, thinner than any which the father would dare wear, even for an hour, in the same parlor or nursery where the little one, perhaps delicate and croupy, spends all its time. Little people, after they begin to run alone, are strangely neglected in the dress of their legs. I know of nothing in the whole range of fashionable absurdities more cruel and mischievous than this exposure of the legs of children in this severe climate. A strong man of perhaps forty years told me that he supposed children's legs were exposed in this way to toughen them. I suggested that it might toughen him to pursue a similar policy—that the avoidance of flannels and the use of white linen pants might do for him, if he did not exactly fancy the bare legs of his little son for himself.

I shall not insult your common sense by arguing that young children require quite as much protection about the legs and feet as vigorous adults. If they do not go out doors, they are sure to become so delicate that they will require quite as much clothing as those who do go out. And besides that, if in the house constantly, with open doors, and tendency of all the cold air to fall to the floor, the feet and legs of the little shaver are in quite a cold stratum of air. If you really wish to know the temperature of their extremities, put your hands upon their knees and calves, and taking off their short cotton socks and then red slippers, take their little trotters in your hands, and I venture that you will dream all the next night about ice-cold and thick flannels. Little children should, generally speaking, during seven months of the year, wear at least two thicknesses of knit woolen about their legs, from their hips to their feet; while the feet should have thick woolen hose, with broad, warm, substantial soles, lined with wool or fur. And I will repeat that their arms should have about the same protection, and their shoulders up to their necks should have at least one good thickness of woolen.—Dr. Dio Lewis.

Measuring Lightning. The length of a flash of lightning is generally greatly underestimated. The longest known was measured by M. F. Petit, at Toulouse. This flash was ten and a half miles long. Arago once measured a series which averaged from seven to eight miles in length. The longest interval ever remarked between a flash and a report was seventy-two seconds, which would correspond with a distance of fourteen miles. Direct researches have shown that a storm is seldom heard at a greater distance than from seven to ten miles, while the average are barely heard over four or five miles off. This fact is more curious as a cannon may be heard clearly or treble that distance, and in special cases much further.

Rice and Apple Picking.—Now that we have good, rich, cooking apples we must improve them. Take the best you can get, greenings if possible; pare, core and cut into half-inch pieces; put them into a pipkin, jar or porcelain-lined saucepan, with tight cover, and scatter in uncooked rice in about the proportion of one part rice to four parts apple; fill up with water, cover close and bake in a moderate oven two hours, or until the rice is properly tender. Dish hot, sprinkle it over with sugar, and eat before it is quite cold, dressed with milk or cream if desired. If preferred, the sugar may be put into the pudding before baking.

Colorado's gold and silver crop this year is estimated at five millions.

Postal Telegraph.

Reasons for Adopting the System—What Congress Should Do in Order to Reduce the Rates on Messages and News.

The President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, in his letter to a New York paper, says: "The Herald is probably correct in assuming that further reduction in rates will not be made by the companies now doing the telegraph business for some time to come." The Western Union Telegraph Company have adopted some uniformity in their charges within a few years past, and made a few other reductions in their rates, to the great benefit of the public and of the company; but the public are under no obligation to the company for making these reductions; for President Orton, in his annual report, informs his stockholders that they were forced upon them from the competition from opposition companies. The have recently purchased the principal opposition lines, and have reduced their rates so low that the remaining companies are unable to make any money. Now that this great monopoly is free from all fear of competition, they announce that they will make no further concessions in rates.

That the company are able to make further reductions is shown by the facts given in the annual report. From these it appears that the rates have been reduced nearly one-third in six years, yet the cost of doing the business is so much less, in consequence of its great increase, that the net profits are greater at the lower than at the higher rates. Mr. Orton has so often reiterated the proposition that the expenses increase in nearly as rapid a ratio as the business, and therefore reductions in rates cannot be made, that he has persuaded himself of its truth, and is unable to appreciate the force of the facts which we have given.

Mr. Orton truly says that the telegraph is only in its infancy. The growth of its business is much more rapid than that of the express or post-office, and at the same rate of increase the number of telegrams that will be annually sent ten years hence is larger than the number of letters sent when the postage was reduced to five cents. The immediate increase in the correspondence that followed upon the use of the telegraph and three-cent postage stamp was enormous, rapidly increasing from 50,000,000 to 500,000,000. There will be the same increase in the telegraphic correspondence if the same relative reductions in rates were made for the same causes would operate to produce like effects. The people cannot hope for such reductions from the Western Union Telegraph Company, because there is now no reason to induce it to make them, and because the loss of net revenues from the great reductions in rates necessary to popularize the telegraph would be greater than the saving of expenses on each telegram from the great increase in the business. Such reductions can be made under the postal telegraph system, for that will save nearly one-quarter of the present expenses, and would therefore authorize a reduction in rates of nearly forty per cent, and yet leave a sufficient profit on the greatly increased business.

The Postmaster-General will ask Congress to purchase all existing lines of telegraph, and build the new ones required for the business. The expense of purchasing these lines has been estimated by committees of Congress at from \$40,000,000 to \$70,000,000. I do not think Congress will feel disposed, in the present condition of our finances, to authorize such expenditure, especially as the object sought can be accomplished without an expense to the government.

The Post-office Department will furnish the offices and the Postal Telegraph Company will transmit the messages at rates fixed by Congress. If the people are to have cheap telegrams, and to have the news furnished to the press at low rates, they must support the postal telegraph system, and urge Congress to pass a bill authorizing the Postmaster-General to contract as he now contracts for the carriage of the mails. If, on the other hand, they desire to perpetuate an overgrown monopoly, which is every day growing more powerful, then let them continue the present system by which a single private corporation controls the telegraphic correspondence of the country, and has the power to give or withhold news to the press, and to mold public opinion in its own interest. Such a power is too great for any private company to hold, and should be in the hands of the people, to be used only for their benefit.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Canada Thistles. Out West there are a "sure crop" when heat and drought kill almost everything else. They appear to be proof against all efforts to destroy them, and neither fire, poison, nor the knife has more than a temporary effect upon their vitality. In one locality the plant has been mowed before seed time, plowed early in the season, and raked up by the roots, then cut by the hoe at intervals of two or three weeks during the months of June and July, and finally cut again with the hoe and broadsword later in the season. In another locality the thistles were dug up and burnt; in another they were hacked off close to the ground and salt strewn over the roots; in another they were saturated with strong brine and sprinkled with aquafortis, and in another they were covered with refuse lime from gas works to the depth of several inches. One bold farmer, whose wrath against the weed must have been uncommonly fierce, actually pulled them up by the roots, then dug a hole where the roots had been, and filled it with benzine. He thinks he killed the thistles thus treated, but it is not quite certain; nor is there, we are pained to say, a single well-authenticated eradication. Thistle "commissioners" have been appointed, but it is easy to see from their report that they fear and anticipate a fine showing of the sweet Canadian flower next season, in spite of hoes, plows, broadswords, salt, aquafortis, lime, and benzine. As a final resort it is recommended by a Chicago journal that a pound of nitro-glycerine be placed under each thistle and exploded by electricity.

A Washington city drug clerk mixed three grains of opium, instead of three drops, and a child was killed by the error.

Perry Davis's Pain-Killer, introduced over thirty years ago, has enjoyed a world wide celebrity, and so familiar to all readers that it seems hardly necessary to call their attention to it. Yet in these days of patent medicines, it may be well to remind the reader that a remedy that has worked its way into every family by its own merits is safer and more reliable than that one that has yet to be tested. The writer has seen it in general use in Europe as in this country, and everywhere giving satisfaction.—Leader, Boston.

HEART DISEASE.

Many persons suffer with heart disease without knowing it—suddenly they drop off, and their friends are astonished, on a post mortem examination, to learn that they died of heart disease. The heart, like the brain, is the seat of life—the diseases are of several characters. The most common are valvular diseases, fatty degeneration, and functional derangement. If the liver becomes deranged, and digestion is impaired, the heart, through sympathy and juxtaposition, becomes abnormal. The following symptoms indicate approaching disease: palpitation, giddiness, faintness, nervous prostration, deranged digestion, vertigo, cold extremities, etc., etc., for which the old school will administer iron, opium, antimony, mercury, and many other mineral poisons. Heart disease is a blood disease—purify the blood, and you will cure the heart. The blood is purified by taking that *Vegetable Alternative*, VINEGAR BITTERS, and you will be a sound person in two or three months.—Com.

Thinking is harder work than chopping, and much more remunerative.

For Sale or Lease.—600 acres of Excellent Fruit Land in Trimble Co., Ky. Address Ben Morris, Milton, Trimble Co., Ky.—Com.

Wistar's Balsam for coughs and colds.—Com.

There is, probably, no way in which we can benefit our readers more than by recommending to them for general use *Johnson's Anodyne Liniment*. It is adapted to almost all the purposes of a Family Medicine; and as a specific for coughs, colds, whooping cough, croup, sore throat, lameness, rheumatism, spitting of blood, and all the lung difficulties, it has no equal that ever we saw or heard of.—Com.

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CHAPPED HANDS, face, rough skin, pimples, ring-worm, salt-rheum, and other eruptions cured, and the skin made soft and smooth by using JONAS TAYLOR'S SOAP, made by CASWELL, HAZARD & CO., New York. Be sure to get the Juniper-Tar Soap made by us, as there are many imitations made with common tar which are worthless.—Com.

THIRTY YEARS' EXPERIENCE OF AN OLD NURSE. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is THE PRESCRIPTION OF one of the best Female Physicians and Nurses in the United States, and has been used for thirty years with never failing safety and success by millions of mothers and children. It corrects acidity of the stomach, relieves wind, colic, regulates the bowels, and gives rest, health and comfort to mother and child. We believe it to be the best and surest Remedy for INFANTS IN CHARGE, whether it arises from Teething or from any other cause. It is a most valuable and safe family medicine. None Genuine unless the name of CURTIS & BROWN is on the outside wrapper.

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SINGERS AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS. Will find Troches useful in clearing the voice when hoarse, and in relieving the throat after an unusual exertion of the vocal organs. Obtain only Brown's Bronchial Troches, and do not take any of the worthless imitations that may be offered. Sold everywhere.

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EVERY SATURDAY.

A Journal of Choice Reading.

The plan of *EVERY SATURDAY* embraces Serial Tales, Short Stories, Critical and Descriptive Essays, Sketches of Travel and Adventure, Poems, Biographical Sketches, Literary Information, in fine, whatever contributes to produce a Weekly acceptable and attractive to all classes of intelligent American readers.

Among the noted authors represented in *EVERY SATURDAY* are: Arthur H. Conquer, Kingsley, Matthew Arnold, Matthew Brown, Edmund Yates, Henry Kingsley, G. H. Lewis, George MacDonald, The Country Parson, Frances Power Coburn, Karl Blind, Captain Burton, and many others.

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JAMES R. OSGOOD & CO., Publishers, 124 Tremont Street, Boston.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE.

WITH the December number commenced the Forty-seventh Volume of HARPER'S MAGAZINE. For the artistic excellence, as for the number of its illustrations, HARPER'S MAGAZINE is unsurpassed. It is adapted to almost all the purposes of a Family Medicine; and as a specific for coughs, colds, whooping cough, croup, sore throat, lameness, rheumatism, spitting of blood, and all the lung difficulties, it has no equal that ever we saw or heard of.—Com.

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Prospectus for 1874—Seventh Year.

THE ALDINE.

An Illustrated Monthly Journal, universally admitted to be the Handsomest Periodical in the World. A Representative and Champion of American Taste.

NOT FOR SALE IN BOOK OR NEWS STORES.

THE ALDINE, while issued with all the regularity, has none of the temporary or time interest characteristic of ordinary periodicals. It is an elegant miscellany of pure, light and graceful literature; and a collection of pictures, the most artistic and beautiful in black and white. Although each succeeding number affords a fresh pleasure to its friends, the real value and beauty of THE ALDINE will be most appreciated after it has been read and its close of volume. While other publications may claim superior cheapness, as compared with rivals of a similar class, THE ALDINE is a unique and original concern, and one that cannot be duplicated in the quantity of the paper and engravings in any other place or number of volume at the same time and cost; and then, there are the chromos, besides!

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ART DEPARTMENT, 1874.

The illustrations of THE ALDINE have won a world-wide reputation, and in the art circles of Europe it is an admitted fact that its wood cuts are examples of the highest perfection ever attained. The common prejudice in favor of "steel plates" is rapidly yielding to a more educated and discriminating taste, which recognizes the advantages of original artistic quality with greater facility of production. The wood cuts of THE ALDINE possess all the delicacy and elaborate finish of the most costly steel plates, and they afford a better rendering of the artist's original.

To fully realize the wonderful work which THE ALDINE is doing for the cause of art in America, it is only necessary to consider the cost to the people of any decent representation of the productions of great painters.

In addition to designs by the members of the National Academy and other noted American artists, THE ALDINE will reproduce examples of the best foreign masters, selected with great care to the highest artistic success and given to the public at a price that will be a real boon to the people of any decent representation of the productions of great painters.

The quarterly tinted plates for 1874 will be published by J. D. Woodward.

The Christmas issue for 1874 will contain special designs appropriate to the season by our best artists, and will surpass in attractions any of its predecessors.

PREMIUM FOR 1874.

Every subscriber to THE ALDINE for the year 1874 will receive a pair of beautiful Chromos. The original pictures were painted in oil, and the great colorists of the day were employed by Congress for the purpose of representing the "East" and "The West." One is a view in the White Mountains, New Hampshire; the other gives the view of Grand Canyon, Arizona. The difference in the nature of the scenes themselves is a pleasing contrast, and affords a good display of the artist's color and coloring.

Chromos are a new and novel way of representing the productions of great painters. The presentation of a worthy example of the American great artist, and the reproduction of the pictures of THE ALDINE was a bold but happily happy idea, and its successful realization is attested by the following testimonial, over the signature of Mr. Moran himself.

NEWARK, N. J., Sept. 20th, 1873.

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